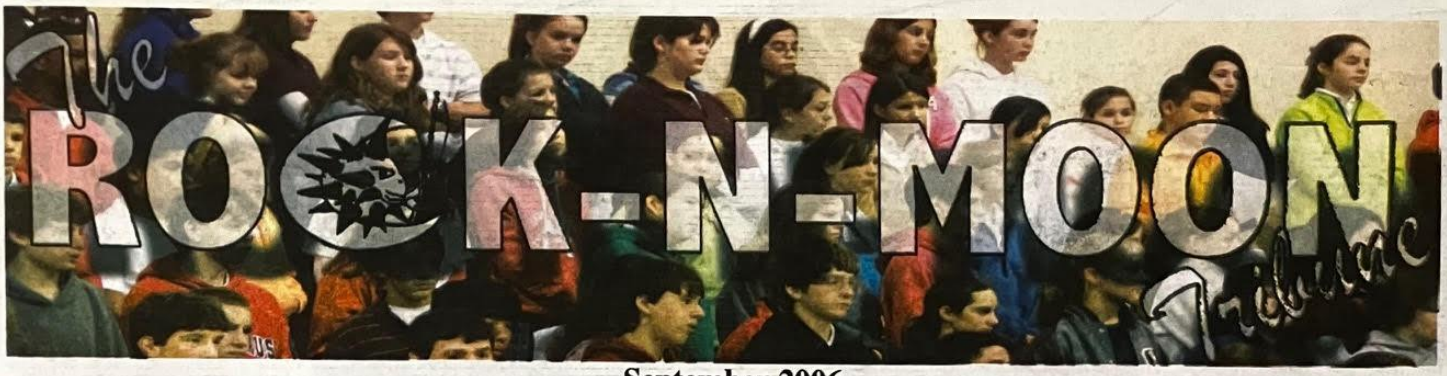

September 2006

SSC AND OLA CAMPUSES TAKE SHAPE IN NEW SCHOOL YEAR

By: Andre Romain and Josh Crowe

St. Stanislaus College and Our Lady Academy have been slowly trying to rebuild since Hurricane Katrina hit last year. It was an inconvenience for all the students and teachers to try and adapt to the combination of the heavily damaged schools. New construction and old repairs are helping things return to normal and work around school is coming to a steady motion.

St. Stanislaus has started its major facelift. As many of the students can see, a new band hall is being built behind the old gym. Construction has been going very slowly until recently. The band hall is expected be done by the end of October, bringing the more than one year construction to an end.

The SSC cafeteria was destroyed during Katrina last year, and for the remainder of the 2006-2007 school year, the administration had to find alternate measures for dining. This year Valley Foods Inc., a company established by a 1935 graduate of SSC, will be preparing the food in a temporary kitchen made up of trailers set up behind the tennis courts.

Students will eat for the first few weeks in the Brother Peter Gym, and then move to the Blaize Gym for the remainder of the year. This move will allow contractors to replace the gym floor.

The new SSC band hall, located behind the Old Gym, is planned to be finished in October.

The day student parking lot will be repaved and its size will be doubled to allow for more vehicles.Finally, the first floor of the school building will be renovated to include eight classrooms, indoor lockers, a snack bar and a campus store. No word on when this would be completed, but it is unlikely to be completed by this year's end.

Our Lady Academy has been undertaking the awesome task of rebuilding their school. Since their classes were scattered in several smaller buildings before Katrina, OLA must concentrate on rebuilding buildings dedicated to learning.

Johnson Hall is in the final stages of repair and Mercy Hall was under heavy construction all last school year. It is finally open this year, doubling the size of the main school building.

St. Joseph Hall will, unfortunately, have to be completely rebuilt from the ground up and the gym, while structurally sound and in decent condition, must be renovated at the end of October.

In a few weeks, Compton Engineers will begin an eight weeklong project to pave a "temporary" road along Beach Boulevard from Bookter Street to Bayview. The road will be twelve feet wide with two lanes.

Sr. Jackie does not know yet how the OLA girls will get to the parking lot in the morning. Br. Ronald is also concerned about the only remaining part of the pier, the overpass. He hopes that the road construction will not require that the overpass be torn down.

SSC and OLA, like many affected by Katrina, are still waiting for FEMA money. However, both administrations show much faith for the revival of their schools.

"Things will be a little muddled for a while, but we'll make it through," said Sr. Jackie.

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News

Regime Change At SSC

By: Matthew Vollenweider

July 1, 2006— The rumors that spread around school for the past few years are now true. The St. Stanislaus College Board of Directors has announced that this school year, as you may have noticed, Brother Ronald Hingle will be President and Mr. Paul Verlander will be Principal.

"I am most humbled and honored that the board has this kind of trust and confidence in me," exclaimed Brother Ronald Hingle.

Next school year Coach Stace McRaney will become the new Dean of Students. Meanwhile, Brother Ronald Talbot is still waiting assignment from his Provincial to a new ministry.

"I have been very fortunate to have worked alongside such a visionary and faith filled educational leader and religious like Brother Talbot. One of my goals is to continue the direction he has set, keeping SSC firmly rooted in its rich tradition, yet making it responsible to the challenging needs of our times and place," continued Brother Hingle.

The last layperson to be principal at SSC was Mike Ryan who held the office from 1991 to 1996.

"Stanislaus has been a beacon of light on the Coast for over 150 years; and, in the aftermath of Katrina, I expect it to fill that role more than ever before," Mr. Verlander stated.

The Rock-N-Moon Tribune

Established monthly as The Rock-N-Moon Tribune Nov. 9, 2005. Formerly The Rock-A-Chaw, founded October 1917, and the Maroon Moon Tribune, founded November 1974. The Rock-N-Moon Tribune is the official student newspaper of St. Stanislaus College and Our Lady Academy, 304 South Beach Blvd., Bay St. Louis, MS 39520; Phone 228-467-9057; FAX 228-466-2972. The paper is printed annually during the academic year.

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	Joshua Crowe
	Ryan Boutet
	Natalie Perry
Special Thanks	Emily Stechmann
	Don Haller
Advisor	Mrs. Hollie McCollister

The new faculty from left to right: Mr. Bailey, Mr. McCall, Ms. Carniero, Ms. Dean, Ms. McGill, and Ms. Williams. Not pictured is Coach Kuhner and Brother Henry.

New Faces Grace SSC

By: Sean Bradford

August 11,2006—We have several new additions to the faculty this year. We hope they have an outstanding first year here at SSC.

Christian Bailey of Hattiesburg, MS will be teaching Art I and Art II this year. He holds a Bachelors of Fine Art Degree in Sculpture, as well as a Masters in Education. Mr. Bailey is also the coach of the SCUBA Diving Club and is an avid wreck diver and metalworker.

Also joining us this year is Brother Henry Gaither from New Orleans. Brother Henry has degrees in History Education and Guidance, and will be teaching 6th grade religion. He will also manage the Service Program and Key Club.

Replacing Mr. McGrath will be Heather Williams, from Baton Rouge. With a degree in English and a minor in French, Miss Williams will be teaching all three French classes.

Ms. Jonna McGill is the new counselor for grades 6th through 9.

Dawson McCall, a native of our very own Bay Saint Louis and a recent Stanislaus graduate, is joining us this year. Mr. McCall is teaching Social Studies courses for sophomores and seniors. He is also coaching Basketball on the Varsity, Jr. Varsity and Jr. High levels.

Joseph Kuhner was hired last year by OLA. This year he is teaching Algebra I and II for SSC. Mr. Kuhner is also the Jr. High Football and Varsity Track coach.

Marie Dean has traveled far and wide to get to Stanislaus. Originally from England, she started her life on our continent in the Northern half, living in Alaska and Canada, before moving to the Midwest and finally landing on the coast. Mrs. Dean will teach Literature and take over the forensics and drama clubs.

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News

Hoby Tradition Continues at SSC and OLA

Jourdan Nicaud, Class of '08

By: Matthew Vollenweider

August 11, 2006—This summer two students from the SSC/OLA community attended the Hugh O'Brian Youth (HOBY) Leadership seminar for the state of Mississippi.

Jourdan Nicaud of SSC and Rebekah Kennedy of OLA joined two-hundred and twenty high school sophomores from across the state at the HOBY seminar at Millsaps College in Jackson from June 2-4.

HOBY's mission is to teach young leaders how to think not what to think. HOBY was founded by Hugh O'Brian who got the idea of creating this organization from the famous humanitarian, Dr. Albert Schweitzer.

Students learn about the fundamentals of leadership by interacting with Mississippi's top leaders such as Mayor Frank Melton of Jackson, Mississippi Supreme Court Justice Kay Cobb, and Time Magazine's "Person of the Year" Cynthia Cooper.

One day of the weekend the students spent time committed to service work at different community organizations around the Jackson area. Each student took a commitment to volunteer one hundred hours of service to organizations around Mississippi.

"This experience was amazing. I met many new friends and learned a lot about leadership," exclaimed Nicaud.

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Nick Shannon and Chris Tighe pay close attention as Mr. Dave Dennis gives the keynote address at the Senior Leadership Breakfast on Friday, September 1, 2006. The Class of 2007 has a large agenda to fill with the ring mass on Thursday, September 7 and Big Brother/Little Brother coming later in the year. The class plans to take a leadership role at SSC and make the school better than what it was when they arrived here. That was the challenge given to them at the breakfast on Friday morning.

SSC and OLA Students Make Some Noise at CONA

By: Ryan Boutet

July 11, 2006—Over the summer several students from SSC and OLA, along with five hundred teens from across the country, attended the Conference on National Affairs in Black Mountain, North Carolina.

The delegates attending the conference authored proposals on laws varying from changing the national symbol from the Bald Eagle to the Dodo to impeaching President George W. Bush. Many proposals brought heated debate, but during free time everyone put their political ideologies aside and made many friends.

Delegates from SSC and OLA included Stephen Passman, Jessie Shifalo, Laura Kergosien, Victoria Romano, and Ryan Boutet. Of the five hundred proposals submitted, eighteen passed through the General Assembly and Plenary sessions, one being Ryan Boutet's proposal to give the President Line Item Veto.

At the end of the conference, the six Presiding Officers, or POs, gave speeches in which they announced who would succeed them in the conference the next year. Because only six of the hundreds of delegates in attendance can be chosen, to be named a PO is the highest honor at CONA. This year Laura Kergosien was named a Presiding Officer, Mississippi's second in conference history.

CONA was a life changing experience for all involved. Delegates are able to meet and befriend people from different walks of life and truly bond with people from across their respective states.

A Year in Review

2005-2006

A Hurricane Named Katrina

BY: NATALIE PERRY

Friday, August 26th, 2005 began and ended as a regular day for all of us who were at OLA. Our day started with a morning announcement where Sister Jackie addressed the student body about the upcoming football game and what was sure to be a fun evening for all. As she continued, she told us that a tropical storm was moving into the Gulf of Mexico and was expected to turn into a hurricane. She told us it would probably not affect us and would be just another Arlene or Dennis. No one realized that, in just three days, we would all be proven wrong.

As soon as the bell rang for dismissal, everyone rushed out of school thinking about their plans for the new school year and what to do over the weekend. As we all left the building, whether it was SSC or OLA, no one knew that life was about to change or that all we knew would never be the same.

August 29th, that infamous day, brought a dawn of destruction and devastation that was Katrina. This Category 5 storm came on shore with the highest storm surge ever recorded on the Gulf Coast. This, coupled with the sustained winds of 145 mph and gusts of 180 mph, devastated the coast and took our way of life with it.

The result of the storm was nothing less then sobering. Communication was lost between vast stretches of communities with no cellular or landline services. Those who evacuated had no idea whether their loved ones were dead or alive. Meanwhile, the people who stayed had no way to contact FEMA, their friends, or their families.

So many people, whether they had woken up the morning after or returned a few days later, were at a loss for words. Everything between Pearlington and Pascagoula was permanently altered. Our homes, our way of life, and our sense of normalcy were all victims of Katrina.

Slowly, however, progress is being made. Our slabs now have trailers, and our "tent villages" and renewal projects have created a silver lining on this cloud of uncertainty.

SSC/OLA Score Big in National Merit

BY EMILY STECHMANN

It was a record-setting year for the class of 2006. The class was not only the first senior class to be "co-ed," but it was also the first senior class to have six National Merit Semifinalists between the two schools.

Matthew Planchard, Brad Reinhart, and Clay Tate were the Semifinalists from St. Stanislaus. Samantha Goodfellow, Laura Kergosien, and Colleen O'Brien were the Semifinalists from OLA.

It was an amazing accomplishment. Biloxi High School had two National Merit Semifinalists, and that was the most of any of the other schools along the Gulf Coast had from the class of 2006.

These students qualified for this honor by scoring in the top 16,000 juniors who took the PSAT. To become a National Merit Finalist, the Semifinalists must take the SAT, fill out a detailed application, and write an essay. Based on academic, extracurricular, and service accomplishments, 12,000 Finalists are chosen.

This is an amazing achievement for any student. Scholarships are abundant for National Merit Semifinalists and Finalists. More than 10,500 of the most outstanding participants will receive a total of $50 million in scholarships and most state universities will award full scholarships to Finalists.

Out of the finalists from our schools Laura Kergosien, Colleen O'Brien, Brad Reinhart, and Clay Tate all received the honor of National Merit Finalist. Laura also received the National Scholar Award.

Sad Faces to Green Spaces

SSC Students Help Build Joy for Bay Kids

BY MATT VOLLENWEIDER

At the City Park in Bay St. Louis, behind the old city hall, stands the first new structure in Bay St. Louis. This playground, designed by the elementary students of Bay St. Louis, was assembled on Saturday, December 17th.

The playground was a $100,000 donation from KaBOOM!, a national non-profit organization who has the vision to build a playground within walking distance of every child in America.

According to the Sun Herald, there were 600 volunteers, and there was a great presence of Bay St. Louis residents helping build the playground. Among those volunteers were six SSC students: William Currie, Kevin Duvieilh, Jackson Gilmore, Reed Gilmore, Tyler Hughes, and Matthew Vollenweider.

As a part of the masses, we helped compose different sections of the play place and witnessed the pieces being put together. We began working at eight o'clock in the morning and finished at one o'clock in the afternoon. Our work finished with the assembly and placement of a seesaw.

"It just feels great," said Bay St. Louis Mayor Eddie Farve, "This is super-important for restoring whatever we can to these children's lives. We look forward to seeing lots of kids here, and lots of families."

President Bush had a press conference in the SSC Blaize Gym stressing the country's support for the Gulf Coast's recovery.